



**BOX ISSUE FEE
PATENT**

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kazushi TORII, et al. Conf. No.: 5063
Application No.: 10/572,565 Examiner: Robert C. BOYLE
Filing Date: March 17, 2006 Art Unit: 1796
Title: WATER ABSORBENT AND PRODUCING METHOD OF SAME
Atty. Dkt. No.: I2480-000166/US

Customer Service Window
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401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

August 13, 2010

Mail Stop Issue Fee

**COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINER'S
STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, provided with the Notice of Allowance dated May 17, 2010, Applicants submit the following comments.

The Examiner offers several reasons why the claims of the present application are allowable over the prior art of record. Although Applicants agree that the various claimed limitations mentioned in the claims are not taught or suggested by the prior art taken either singly or in combination, Applicants do not necessarily agree with any of the Examiner's characterizations of what the prior art does allegedly teach. Further, Applicants wish to emphasize that each claim should be limited solely by the limitations set forth therein and should not be limited, in any way, by Examiner's Statements regarding limitations not set forth therein. For instance, the Examiner states that claim 3 recites a logarithmic

standard deviation of "0.25-0.25," but this is not correct.¹ Claim 3 actually recites a logarithmic standard deviation of "0.25 to 0.45." Finally, Applicants note that it is each claim, taken as a whole, including the interrelationships and interconnections between various claimed elements, which is allowable over the prior art of record.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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¹ Notice of Allowance (05/17/2010): p. 3, section 4, ln. 3-4.